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REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been canceled; claims 2-12 have been added. Claims 2-12 are presently pending.

Applicants have broadened the scope of the sole independent claim in the application, now claim 2, as they realized that prior claim 1 was too narrow in scope. New dependent claims have also been added. These amendments were not in response to the Examiner's rejection of the claims and no surrender of subject matter is intended thereby.

As a preliminary matter, the Applicants note that the Examiner's presumption that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made is correct.

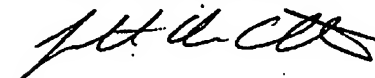
Prior claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102(e) in view of Korenjak *et al.* (US. Pat. 6,390,869). This rejection appears to be in error based simply on the relevant dates of the present application and that of Korenjak. Korenjak was filed on February 28, 2001 and claims priority to US Provisional applications serial nos. 60/185,703 filed February 29, 2000 and 60/257,174 filed December 22, 2000. The present application also claims priority to these same two provisional applications and is a continuation of US Patent No 6,626,140 also filed on February 28, 2001. Upon consultation of the Office's PAIR system, the error seems to have occurred in that the priority to the above-noted provisional applications does not seem to have been noted by the Office in the present application, and was therefore overlooked by the Examiner. The present application's priority claim to the two provisional applications was indeed made in the Application Data Sheet as filed and in the preliminary paragraph of the specification as filed, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.78. The priority claim is believed to be proper and perfected. Applicants request that the Examiner have the records of the Office amended to show the claim to priority, and that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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There being no other issues, Applicants believe that all of the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that any additional modification are necessary to advance the prosecution of the present application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below

Respectfully submitted,



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